

Public Health Information Network (PHIN) Standards

PHIN standards apply to the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS) – a PHIN initiative.

(Note: This table was developed by the CalPHIN team as a partial guide to PHIN standards.

See <http://www.cdc.gov/cic/functions-specs/> for complete specifications.)

Standard	Responsible Organization, Link to Details	Use/Importance of this Standard
Public Health Data Standards		
HL7 Reference Information Model (RIM) , (part of HL7 version 3.x)	Health Level Seven (HL7), http://www.hl7.org/	Conceptual model of health care concepts: classes, attributes, datatypes, vocabulary codes
HL7 Messaging Specifications , (currently based on HL7 version 2.x; version 3.x in development for future years)	Health Level Seven (HL7), http://www.hl7.org/	Defines messages (i.e. data element sequences), trigger events, sender/receiver roles, for common data exchanges
LOINC , (laboratory and clinical tests vocabulary)	Regenstrief Institute http://www.loinc.org/	Six-part coding scheme for describing laboratory tests (e.g. on specimens) and clinical tests (directly on living subjects)
SNOMED , (comprehensive medical vocabulary)	College of American Pathologists http://www.snomed.org/	Comprehensive, granular medical terminology describing a broad array of health care concepts
Technology Standards		
XML	World Wide Web consortium, http://www.w3c.org/XML/	Platform-independent data transfer for web applications; data structure enforcement
ODBC/JDBC	http://www.microsoft.com/data/odbc/ http://java.sun.com/products/jdbc/	Common API for accessing database tables; including relational databases; plus others
HTTP, HTTPS	World Wide Web consortium, http://www.w3c.org/	Hypertext transfer protocol, used for HTML pages between browser and web server; HTTPS adds encryption, uses secure sockets
SOAP	World Wide Web consortium, http://www.w3c.org/	Protocol enabling invocation of remote services (object methods/procedures) over Internet; platform neutral
ebXML	OASIS and UN/CEFACT http://www.ebxml.org/	Envelope protocol; the message service (only) of ebXML is used in conjunction with SOAP (per PHIN tech specs) to enhance routing, reliability, and security of message transmissions; no Public Health semantics;
LDAP, LDIF	ISODE consortium; Univ. of Michigan, IETF http://www.isode.com/whitepapers/ic-6032.html	Lightweight directory access protocol; provides information model and standard means of accessing directory contents. LDIF is interchange format for synchronizing (exporting, importing) LDAP directories.